farming uniformly through-out the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K.C. LENKA) : (a) to (c) Poultry being a State subject only the State Government can accord the status of agriculture to poultry farming. Government of India have recommended to all States/ Union Territories to accord the status of agriculture to poultry farming in respect of production of eggs and table poultry for the purpose of electricity tariff, labour and land laws, institutional financing, sales tax, octroi, etc

Cost of production for crops

1400. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have since considered the final report the Hanumantha Rao Committee, on the methodology of the cost of production for crops;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction to the recommendati ons/observavations regarding the vulation of the farm labour on the basis of actual market rates;

(c) whether the Commission for Agriculture Costs and Prices (CACP had also dealt with some aspects of the matter dealt with by the Hanumantha Rao Committee ; and

(d) if so, whether the decision taken by Government thereon has been conveyed to the State Governments ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) (a) to (d) The Final Report of the Hanumantha Rao Committee on Methodlogy of the Cost of Production of Crops is under active con:ideration of the Government.

While considering the Final Report, the Government have with it the views of Commis:ion for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) on decisions taken on the recommendations made in the Interim Report of the Committee with regard to valuation of labour, adjustment of announced prices and inslusion of management as an item of input of cost which are reiterated in the Final Report also. The Govt. also have the professional views obtained from the Seminar organised under the auspices of Indian Society of Agricultural Economics on recommendations made in the Interim Report for taking a final view in the matter.

Decline in cotton production

1401. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been as steep decline in cotton production in the last 2 years ;

(b) if so, the State-wise production of cotton during the current year;

(c) the area identified by Government where the production of Cotton has come down ; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to enhance the yield-rate per acre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) No, Sir Production of Cotton during 1990-91 at 97.6 lakh bales was the highest record production only next to 1989-90. Production of cotton in 1991-92 is also expected to be around the same level as in 1990-91.

(b) The final estimates of production of cotton during 1991-92 has not become due from the States as yet However, as per the current assessment the production of cotton in major growing States this year is as follows:—

(Lakh bales of 150 kgs each)

State	Production
Andhra Pradesh	12.00
Karnataka	6.12
Tamil Nadu	5.00
Gujarat	8.00
Madhya Pradesh	4.00
Maharashtra	14.00
Haryana	12.50
Punjab	25.00
Rajasthan	9.00

(c) On account of heliothis pest attack in the major cotton growing districts of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan, the production of cotton during 1990-91 was low. The areas where the decline in cotton production is anticipated during 1991-92 are Gujarat and Maharashtra due to long dry spell during the growth period of the crop.

(d) Government of India is implementing Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) in important cotton growing States for increasing productivity of cotton. Under the scheme financial assistance is provided to the States for production and distribution of quality seeds, plant protection measures, farmers training, demonstration, etc.

Horticulture Acreage

1402. SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the target of horticulture acreage during 8th Five Year Plan;

(b) whether Government have fixed any target to start fruit processing plants in the 8th Five Year Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN) : (a) VIIIth Five Year Plan has not been finalised yet. Central Government does not finalise any target of Acreage. This is being done by respective State Governments. However, as per rough estimates of 1989-90 total acreage under horticultural crops was 148.38 lakh hectares.

(b) and (c) No specific target to start or set up food processing plant has been fixed for VIIIth Five Year Plan. However, schemes have been drawn up by Ministry of Food Processing Industries to assist public cooperative/private sector food processing units during the VIIIth Five Year Plan.

1403. [*Transferred to the 12th March, 1992*]

विदेशों में भारत के कृषि वैज्ञानिक

1404. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह** : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद द्वारा गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान किन-किन कृषि वैज्ञानिकों को विदेश भेजा गया; और

(ख) ये वैज्ञानिक फिलहाल किन-किन देशों में काम कर रहे हैं और हमारे देश को उनकी शिक्षा और प्रशिक्षण का लाभ कब तक मिलने की संभावना है ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री के० सी० लेंका) : (क) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान जिन वैज्ञानिकों को भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद द्वारा प्रशिक्षण के लिए विदेश भेजा गया था उनकी सूची अनुपत्र के रूप में संलग्न है। [**देखिये परिशिष्ट 162, अनुपत्र संख्या 37**]

(ख) जो वैज्ञानिक आज भी विदेश में हैं उनके नाम और जिस देश में वे हैं उस देश का नाम अनुपत्र में दिया गया है। [**देखिए परिशिष्ट 162, अनुपत्र संख्या 38**] जब वे प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त कर भारत में आते हैं तो उनकी शिक्षा और प्रशिक्षण से लाभ उठाया जाता है।

विभिन्न क्षेत्रों का निजीकरण

1405. **मौलाना अबैदुल्ला खान आज़मी** : क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या कृषि मंत्रालय के अन्तर्गत विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में निजीकरण शुरू करने की कोई योजना सरकार के विचाराधीन है; और